THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY V. P. MADHAVA RAO, C.I.E.,
Dewan of Mysore.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

This being the first occasion when Your Excellency presides over the deliberations of this historical institution, the Representative assembly of this State, we the Mahomedan members of this august body take this opportunity to offer you our sincere congratulations on your appointment as chief minister of this important State, and request you to kindly convey our sentiments of deepest gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja for having selected a Statesman of such breadth of views and catholic tendencies to guide the administration of the State.

During the reign of His Highness Sri Krishnaraj Wodeyar 1st Mahomedans occupied a better position, socially and politically, than what they do now. There were a number of persons in Government employ who filled such important posts as Bakshis and the Judges of the Adawlat Court.

During the days of the British Commission, owing to the change of the Court language, and other causes their number gradually decreased, and yet there was a fair representation of them in the service, during the reign of Sri Chamarajendra Wadeyar of blessed memory whose name is still held in reverence by all classes of the Mahomedans. The Civil list of 1892 shows, that in the Revenue Department alone there were two Mahomedan Deputy Commissioners, 6 Assistant Commissioners, 6 Amildars and 1 Deputy Amildar. The higher appointments have gradually gone out of their hands, in spite of the fact that there has been a perceptible increase in the number of Mahomedan graduates, and we regret very much that to-day there is not a single Mahomaden officer of the rank and status of a Deputy Commissioner in the service. Before your advent the rules regarding the recruitment of the lower service operated so harshly upon the Mahomedans, that it was feared that the Mahomedans would be totally excluded from the minor executive appointments.

We are highly thankful to Your Excellency for introducing the Shekdari scheme in a modified form, so as to suit the conditions of the Mahomedan community, and it is hoped, that our young men will avail themselves of its advantages largely.

We beg to invite your attention to the fact that our Anglo-Hindustani Schools are not maintained in an efficient condition, and we pray you to place these institutions under graduates, and if Mahomedan graduates be not available, graduates of other persuasions with a knowledge of Hindustani may be appointed as Head Masters.

The Mahomedans have nothing to say against the new scheme of Civil Service. They believe that it will secure for the service of the State officers of a high intellectual order, of broad and liberal views, who will be above petty and local prejudices and who will accord fair and even treatment to all classes of His Highness the Maharaja's subjects. But owing to the backward condition of their education, the Mahomedans cannot hope to enter the service through the door of 'competition' and we pray that you will introduce a suituble number of our young men in the service by 'nomination.'

On this occasion we beg to offer our greatful thanks to His Highness the Maharaja for the support he has so graciously extended to the sacred shrine of Baba Budan. This is one more instance of His Highness the Maharaja's liberality and munificence to our community which has rendered us so highly loyal and devoted to his person and throne.